

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01

ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4832

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 0183

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, UNCTAD, EEC

SUBJECT: UNCTAD COMMODITY CONSULTATIONS AND COPPER
CONSUMER DISCUSSIONS

REF: (A) STATE 219328; (B) STATE 208183; (C) USEC
BRUSSELS 08634

1. SEPTEMBER 8, WE DISCUSSED COMMODITIES IN GENERAL
AND COPPER IN PARTICULAR WITH LOIC HENNEKINNE, QUAI'S
DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS MAN, WHO ALSO HAS SPECIFIC
RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMODITIES. OUR PRESENTATION WAS
BASED ON REFTELS, AND IT ELICITED RESPONSES OUTLINED
IN PARAGRAPHS 2 AND 3 BELOW.

2. RE BOSWORTH-COREA LETTER ON COMMODITY CONSULTATIONS
IN GENERAL (REFTEL B, PARA 13): HENNEKINNE SAID GOF
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AGREES THAT (1) UNCTAD SHOULD UTILIZE EXISTING

COMMODITY GROUPS TO EXTENT POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO INDUCE PRAGMATIC APPROACH TO COMMODITY PROBLEMS; (2) IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO AVOID CONSULTATIONS ON INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES UNTIL AFTER ESTABLISHMENT OF AD HOC INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATING GROUP CALLED FOR IN NAIROBI RESOLUTION; BUT (3) GIVEN TRADITIONAL UNCTAD ATMOSPHERE, WE CANNOT, RPT CANNOT, EXPECT THAT SECRETARY GENERAL COREA WILL LEND ACTIVE SUPPORT TO ANY MOVE TO LIMIT SUBSTANTIVE WORK AT THESE CONSULTATIONS TO PRE-DEFINED GROUP OF "DIRECTLY-INTERESTED" COUNTRIES. THIS, HENNEKINNE SAID, WOULD BE "SUICIDAL" FOR COREA.

3. RE CONSUMER GROUP COPPER DISCUSSIONS: AFTER REVIEW OF SITUATION SUMMARIZED IN REFTEL (A), HENNEKINNE STATED GOF SUPPORT EITHER FOR PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF EXPANDED OECD HLG MEETINGS 21, 22, AND PART OF 23 SEPTEMBER IF NECESSARY, OR -- PERHAPS PREFERABLY -- IN GENEVA ITSELF AT BEGINNING OF FULL UNCTAD PREPARATORY MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 1. GOF WOULD NOT RPT NOT WISH, HENNEKINNE SAID, TO GET INVOLVED IN SEPARATE, FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSIONS AFTER OECD HLG MEETINGS. THESE LATTER, HE SAID, MIGHT BE SEEN AS CIRCUMVENTION OF UNCTAD. HE VOLUNTEERED THAT LEGOUX'S RETICENCE TO CHAIR NEW CONSUMER GROUP MEETINGS WAS PREDICATED UPON SITUATION DESCRIBED REFTEL (C).

4. ON SEPTEMBER 9, WE HAD BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH LEGOUX, WHO WAS PREPARING TO LEAVE FOLLOWING DAY FOR EC COPPER MEETING IN BRUSSELS. WE THANKED HIM FOR HIS EFFORTS IN BEHALF OF CONSUMERS AND THEN DISCUSSED THREE ISSUES WE WANT TREATED INTER ALIA AT ANY CONSUMER MEETING (PARA 4 A, B, AND C; REFTEL A). LEGOUX VOICED AGREEMENT WITH EFFORTS TO CONTINUE MARCH WORK PROGRAM AND SOUND OUT CONSUMER REACTION TO POSSIBLE PRODUCER OR UNCTAD SECRETARIAT REQUEST FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON STABILIZATION AGREEMENT. ON QUESTION OF "INDEPENDENT PRODUCER/CONSUMER FORUM," HOWEVER, HE SAID IT WOULD BE MOST DIFFICULT FOR FRANCE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNDERTAKE ANYTHING IN THE COMMODITY AREA WHICH WAS INDEPENDENT OF UNCTAD FRAMEWORK. AN INDEPENDENT COPPER FORUM, HE SAID, MIGHT SERVE TO STIMULATE FORMATION OF STILL MORE NEW GROUPS CONCERNED WITH OTHER COMMODITIES.
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